

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121 as follows:

Claims 1-2 (previously cancelled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): A method for producing frequency-converted laser radiation of enhanced power stability and minimum degradation comprising the steps of:

(a) providing an optical pumping source producing optical pumping radiation, and an actively stabilized unidirectional ring cavity, including a Brewster-cut frequency conversion crystal; and

(b) predetermining the beam path direction of the frequency conversion crystal such that said crystal is passed by the radiation only in a the predetermined beam path direction.

Claim 4 (previously amended): A frequency-converted laser apparatus comprising an optical pumping source for producing optical pumping radiation; a unidirectional ring cavity comprising a frequency conversion crystal, a prism and mirror arrangement, wherein the frequency conversion crystal is positioned such that the radiation produced by the optical pumping source enters in a predetermined direction, and wherein the frequency conversion crystal is a symmetrical Brewster-angled crystal.

Claim 5 (previously cancelled).

Claim 6 (previously amended): The frequency-converted laser apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising coupling optics disposed between the optical pumping source and the ring cavity.

Claim 7 (previously amended): The frequency-converted laser apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the unidirectional ring cavity is an external resonant unidirectional cavity.

Claim 8 (previously cancelled).

Claim 9 (previously amended): A frequency-converted laser apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the symmetrical Brewster-angled crystal is a Beta-Borium Borate (β -BaB₂O₄ or BBO) crystal or a Lithium Triborate (LiB₃O₅ or LBO) crystal.

Claim 10 (previously added): A frequency-converted laser apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising a stage amplifier.

Claim 11 (previously amended): A frequency-converted laser apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the prism is connected to a piezoelectric element.

Claim 12 (previously added): A method for producing a frequency-converted laser apparatus comprising the steps of

- (a) determining a beam path direction of a frequency conversion crystal which results in a minimum degradation of generated converted frequency; and
- (b) arranging the crystal in an optical cavity of a laser apparatus such that said crystal is passed by the radiation only in the determined beam path direction.

Claim 13 (new): A frequency-converted laser apparatus comprising

(a) means for determining a beam path direction of a frequency conversion crystal which results in a minimum degradation of generated converted frequency; and

(b) means for arranging the crystal in an optical cavity of a laser apparatus such that said crystal is passed by the radiation only in the determined beam path direction.